

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1 1. (Previously presented) An aerosol generator system comprising:
2 an aerosol generator comprising a vibratable member having a front, a rear and a
3 plurality of apertures extending between the front and the rear, wherein the aerosol generator is
4 configured to produce liquid droplets when operated at a certain vibrational frequency;
5 an isolating structure operably coupled to the aerosol generator and that is
6 configured to couple the aerosol generator to a support structure, wherein the isolating structure
7 has a vibrational impedance that is sufficient to substantially vibrationally isolate the aerosol
8 generator from the support structure, and
9 wherein the isolating structure comprises a plurality of arms extending from the support element.
- 1 2. (Previously presented) An aerosol generator system as in claim 1, wherein
2 the aerosol generator further comprises a support element disposed about an outer periphery of
3 the vibratable member; and a vibratable element coupled to the support element, the vibratable
4 element being configured to vibrate the vibratable member at ultrasonic frequencies, and wherein
5 the isolating structure and the support element are integrally formed together.
- 1 Claim 3 (canceled).
- 1 4. (Previously presented) An aerosol generator system as in claim 1, wherein
2 the arms have a contoured shape.
- 1 Claims 5-6 (canceled).
- 1 7. (Previously presented) An aerosol generator system as in claim 2, wherein
2 the isolating structure is configured such that the ratio of forces transmitted to the support
3 structure to forces at an outer edge of the support element is less than about 30%.
- 1 8. (Previously presented) An aerosol generator system as in claim 7, wherein
2 the ratio is less than about 20%.

1 9. (Previously presented) An aerosol generator system as in claim 2, wherein
2 the isolating structure has resonant frequencies that are outside of an operating frequency range
3 of the aerosol generator.

1 10. (Previously presented) An aerosol generator system as in claim 9, wherein
2 the operating frequency range is about 50 kHz to about 250kHz.

1 11. (Previously presented) An aerosol generator system as in claim 1, wherein
2 the vibratable member has a center portion containing the apertures, wherein the center portion is
3 dome shaped in geometry, and wherein the apertures taper from the rear to the front.

1 12. (Previously presented) An aerosolization generator system as in claim 2,
2 wherein the support element comprises a disc member having a central aperture across which the
3 vibratable member is positioned, and wherein the isolating structure comprises an annular gasket
4 disposed about the disc member.

1 13. (Previously presented) A aerosol generator system as in claim 12, wherein
2 the disc member has a circular outer periphery with a plurality of tabs, and wherein the gasket is
3 inserted between the tabs.

1 14. (Previously presented) An aerosolization device comprising:
2 a housing; and
3 an aerosol generator disposed within the housing, the aerosol generator
4 comprising a vibratable member having a front, a rear and a plurality of apertures extending
5 between the front and the rear, wherein the vibratable member is configured to vibrate at
6 ultrasonic frequencies, an isolating structure coupled to the support element, and operably
7 connected to the housing, wherein the isolating structure has a vibrational impedance that is
8 sufficient to substantially vibrationally isolate the aerosol generator from the housing; and
9 wherein the isolating structure comprises a plurality of arms extending from the
10 support element.

1 15. (Previously presented) A device as in claim 14, wherein the aerosol
2 generator further comprises a support element disposed about an outer periphery of the
3 vibratable member, a vibratable element coupled to the support element to vibrate the vibratable
4 member, wherein the isolating structure and the support element are integrally formed together.

1 Claim 16 (canceled).

1 17. (Previously presented) A device as in claim 14, wherein the arms have a
2 contoured shape.

1 Claims 18-19 (canceled).

1 20. (Previously presented) A device as in claim 15, wherein the isolating
2 member is configured such that the ratio of forces transmitted to the support element to forces at
3 an outer edge of the support element is less than about 30%.

1 21. (Original) A device as in claim 20, wherein the ratio is less than about
2 10%.

1 22. (Original) A device as in claim 14, wherein the isolating structure has
2 resonant frequencies that are outside of an operating frequency range of the aerosol generator.

1 23. (Original) A device as in claim 22, wherein the operating frequency range
2 is about 50 kHz to about 250 kHz.

1 24. (Original) A device as in claim 14, wherein the vibratable member has a
2 center portion containing the apertures, wherein the center portion is dome shaped in geometry,
3 and wherein the apertures taper from the rear to the front.

1 25. (Previously presented) An aerosol generator as in claim 15, wherein the
2 support element comprises a disc member having a central aperture across which the vibratable
3 member is positioned, and herein the isolating structure comprises an annular gasket disposed
4 about the disc member.

1 26 (Original) An aerosol generator as in claim 25, wherein the disc member
2 has a circular outer periphery with a plurality of tabs, and wherein the gasket is inserted between
3 the tabs.

1 27. (Previously presented) A method for aerosolizing a liquid, the method
2 comprising:

3 providing an aerosol generator comprising a vibratable member having a front, a
4 rear, and a plurality of apertures extending between the front and the rear, and a vibratable
5 element to vibrate the vibratable member;

6 supplying a liquid to the rear of the vibratable member; and

7 vibrating the vibratable member with the vibratable element to eject liquid
8 droplets through the apertures while substantially vibrationally isolating the aerosol generator
9 with an isolating structure that is operably coupled to a support structure;
10 wherein the isolating structure comprises a plurality of arms extending from the
11 aerosol generator, wherein the isolating structure is configured to vibrationally isolate the aerosol
12 generator from the support structure.

1 28. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 27, further comprising
2 vibrating the vibratable member at a frequency that is different than a resonant frequency of the
3 isolating structure, and wherein the vibratable member is vibrated at a frequency in the range
4 from about 50 kHz to about 250 kHz, and wherein the ratio of forces transmitted to the support
5 structure to forces at an outer edge of the aerosol generator is less than about 30%.

Claims 29-35 (canceled).